



# **SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICE**

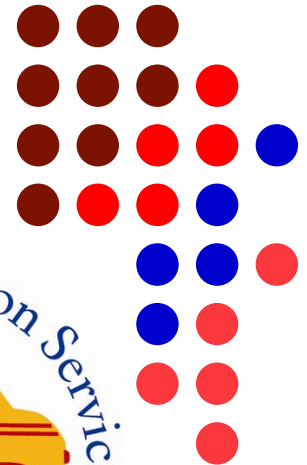
## **FT. LEWIS, WA 98433**

**Norma Melo, School Liaison Officer**  
**Child and Youth Services**  
**Rm 203, Waller Hall (Bldg. 2140), Liggett Ave**

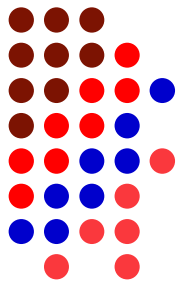
**Phone: (253)967-7195 DSN: 357-7195**  
**Fax: (253)966-3151**

***Hours: M-F 9:30-11:30 1300-1530***

**Email: [schoolliaisonoffice@lewis.army.mil](mailto:schoolliaisonoffice@lewis.army.mil)**



# Websites Rich with Washington's Information



- [www.lewisfamilyfocus.com](http://www.lewisfamilyfocus.com)
- [www.greatschools.net](http://www.greatschools.net)
- [www.militarychild.org](http://www.militarychild.org)
- [www.homeschoolcentral.com](http://www.homeschoolcentral.com)
- [reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us](http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us)

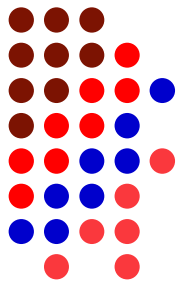


## Websites to Smooth Moves/Transitions

- [www.hqda.army.mil/acsim/relocation.htm](http://www.hqda.army.mil/acsim/relocation.htm)
- [www.homefair.com](http://www.homefair.com)



# OTHER LINKS



Link to other installations-

[www.armymwr.com/portal/myinstallation](http://www.armymwr.com/portal/myinstallation)

Fort Buchanan

[www.buchanan.army.mil/mwr/cys/html](http://www.buchanan.army.mil/mwr/cys/html)

Fort Bliss

[www.blissmwr.com/BlissIDS/SLS.htm](http://www.blissmwr.com/BlissIDS/SLS.htm)

Fort Campbell

[www.campbell.army.mil/](http://www.campbell.army.mil/)

Fort Carson

[www.carsoncys.com/slo/html](http://www.carsoncys.com/slo/html)

Fort Dix

Fort Drum

[www.drum.army.mil/mwr/CYS/School%20Liaison%20Office.htm](http://www.drum.army.mil/mwr/CYS/School%20Liaison%20Office.htm)

Fort Greely

[www.usarak.army.mil/greely/Sites/about/community.asp](http://www.usarak.army.mil/greely/Sites/about/community.asp) t

[www.hoodmwr.com/cys/slo.htm](http://www.hoodmwr.com/cys/slo.htm)

Fort Rucker

[www.ftruckermwr.com/School?20Liaison?20Services](http://www.ftruckermwr.com/School?20Liaison?20Services)

Fort Richardson

[www.usarak.army.mil/framwr/YESS.htm](http://www.usarak.army.mil/framwr/YESS.htm)

Fort Wainwright

[www.wainwright.army.mil/sites/local/](http://www.wainwright.army.mil/sites/local/)

Fort Irwin

[www.irwin.army.mil/HWGarrison/Staff/CommunityActivitiesCYS/SAchoolLiaisonOffice.htm](http://www.irwin.army.mil/HWGarrison/Staff/CommunityActivitiesCYS/SAchoolLiaisonOffice.htm)

Fort Gordon

[www.fortgordon.com/cyb.htm#liaison](http://www.fortgordon.com/cyb.htm#liaison)

Fort McPherson

[www.mcpherson.army.mil/ChildCare/SLO.htm](http://www.mcpherson.army.mil/ChildCare/SLO.htm)

Fort Riley

[www.riley.army.mil/Services/Family/CYS/SLO.ast](http://www.riley.army.mil/Services/Family/CYS/SLO.ast)

Fort Leonard Wood

[www.fortleonardwoodmwr.com/School\\_liaison.htm](http://www.fortleonardwoodmwr.com/School_liaison.htm)

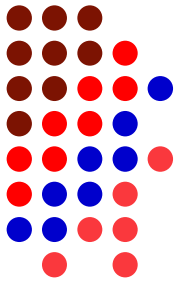
Fort Monmouth

[www.monmouth.army.mil/C4ISR/services/cys/s/shtm](http://www.monmouth.army.mil/C4ISR/services/cys/s/shtm)

Fort Sill

[www.sillmwr.com/SLO.htm](http://www.sillmwr.com/SLO.htm)

# Links (con.)



Fort Sam Houston

[www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com/cys/programs/school/liaison\\_services.asp](http://www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com/cys/programs/school/liaison_services.asp)

Fort Eustis/Fort Story

[www.eustismwr.com/eustismwr](http://www.eustismwr.com/eustismwr)

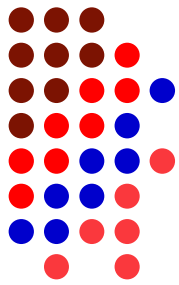
Fort Monroe

[www.monroemwr.com/schoolliaison.htm](http://www.monroemwr.com/schoolliaison.htm)

Fort McCoy

[www.mccoymwr.com/Family/SLO.htm](http://www.mccoymwr.com/Family/SLO.htm)

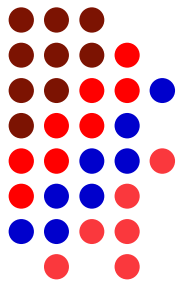
# What Is the Function of the Fort Lewis School Liaison Office?



- **Serves as primary advisor to Commander/command staff on matters relating to regional public schools and School Liaison Services**
- **Informs and assists parents in transitioning military families into the regional public and private schools that will serve their child/children during their assignment at Ft. Lewis**
- **Develops solutions in partnership with local schools that ease barriers to successful education transitions for Army school age youth**
- **Collaborates with local schools, installation organizations, and community organizations to facilitate the education experience of military children and youth**



# School Liaison Office function (continued)



## What If?

*Your child came home with a problem at school that made you and your child's life miserable and you did not know how to get it resolved or who to talk to?*

*You're PCSing and you want to avoid the nightmare with the schools you have heard others have experienced?*

*You want to help your child plan for college, but the school doesn't seem to be helping much?*

*You need help figuring out which school your child will/should attend?*

*You want your child to attend a school that is not in your residence's neighborhood?*

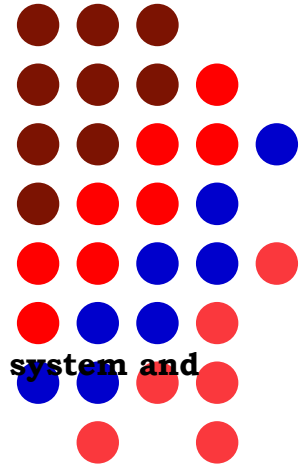


**The School Liaison Officer can help. Call (253)967-7195 or Email: ([schoolliaisonoffice@lewis.army.mil](mailto:schoolliaisonoffice@lewis.army.mil))**

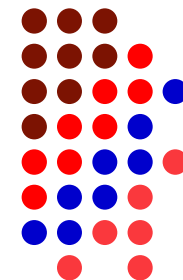
# Checklist for Smooth Transitioning to a New School



- ❑ **Contact ACS Relocation Program (SITES) for information on your gaining installation and surrounding communities.**
- ❑ **Visit the web page for both the State Department of Education and local County/District School System. If going overseas, visit the DODEA homepage at [www.odedodea.edu](http://www.odedodea.edu).**
- ❑ **Contact the Housing Office at the gaining installation (Ft. Lewis (253)967-5354) to determine waiting period for on-post quarters. This may determine what school your child will attend. If you will be in temporary billets your child will have to change schools when you get a permanent address. At your Housing appointment, upon arrival, try to get an address if you will be living on-post. You can then enroll your child in the school to which they will be permanently assigned, but you will be responsible for transportation until you actually move into quarters.**
- ❑ **Check the new school calendar for starting and ending dates (on-line).**
- ❑ **Be familiar with the process of transferring records, school eligibility requirements (Kindergarten age) and subsequent placement of the students.**
- ❑ **If you have a child of high school age, review information on the gaining State's graduation requirements. Be familiar with the present and gaining school's grading system and weighted grads. This may affect your child's class standing/grade point (GPA).**
- ❑ **Give the losing schools adequate (2 week) notice of withdrawal.**
- ❑ **Hand carry all recommended school records. DO NOT PUT THEM IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD GOODS!!**
- ❑ **Encourage your child to visit the Military Teen/Military Kids on the Move website at [www.defenselink.dod.mil/mtom/](http://www.defenselink.dod.mil/mtom/)**
- ❑ **Contact the installation School Liaison Officer and school counselor for assistance.**



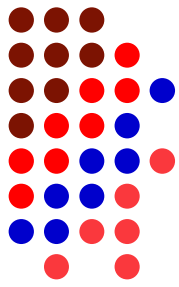
# Tips for Easing Your Child's Stress Over the New School



- Tip #1** Get familiar with the school before you begin. Give children as many details as possible about the new school and community to prepare them for what to expect.
- Tip #2** Visit the new school before your child's first day. Giving your child this opportunity to familiarize him/herself with the school and grounds will help the child feel more at ease.
- Tip #3** Help your child establish ways to stay in touch with old friends. Some of the anxiety about changing schools has to do with the uncertainty of not knowing if they'll be able to keep touch with old friends and "will I find a friend." This reduces the initial transition stress until they adjust to the new environment and start developing new relationships.
- Tip #4** Encourage children to talk to their teachers. Getting to know their teachers makes it easier to ask for help. (If it's a young child, make it a point to meet the new teacher personally.) If your child is middle school or high school age, suggest that they talk individually to teachers at least once a week to discuss upcoming projects, specific lessons, or about areas where they are having difficulty.



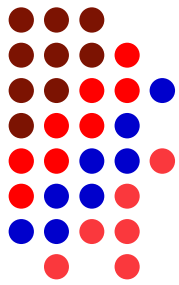
## Tips (continued)



- Tip #5** Talk to kids about their experiences. Allowing your child to talk, even to vent frustrations about his/her new learning environment can be a great help. Instead of general questions like “how was your day,” ask specific questions like “what was the highlight of your day?” “What are you working on in (math/social studies/history)...\_\_\_\_\_ this week?”
- Tip #6** Encourage your child to join clubs, activities and sports or scouts, Boys and Girls Club, to name a few. There is no better way to meet people with shared interests.
- Tip #7** If school work is tough, talk to teachers immediately. Kids shouldn’t wait until they are overwhelmed to talk to their teachers. Ask teachers to keep you informed, including suggestions regarding how work can be improved and how to assist your child.



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

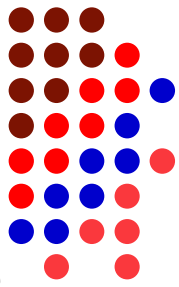


**What primary, middle, and secondary schools do children/youth living on post attend?**

**ANSWER:** Clover Park School District operates the on-post elementary schools. These schools are: Beachwood, Clarkmoor, Evergreen, Greenwood, and Hillside. All Middle School and High School students are bused to attend Clover Park School District schools in Lakewood: Mann Middle School, Woodbrook Middle School, and Lakes High School. Which of these schools your child will attend depends on your on-post housing address



## FAQ (continued)

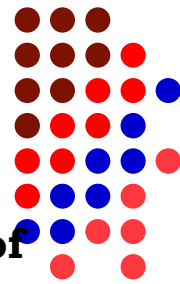


## What primary, middle, and secondary schools do children/youth living off post attend?

**ANSWER:** Which off-post schools your child(ren) would attend depends on where you choose to live. The Fort Lewis commuting surrounds are serviced by up to 20 different school districts. The school districts most frequently serving Ft. Lewis families are:

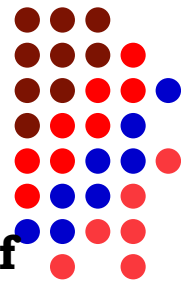
- **Clover Park SD (<http://cpsd.cloverpark.k12.wa.us>) – serving Lakewood, Tillicum, Ft. Lewis, and McChord Air Force base (metropolitan)**
- **N. Thurston SD ([www.nthurston.k12.wa.us](http://www.nthurston.k12.wa.us)) – serving the city of Lacey and Nisqually (metropolitan & rural)**

## FAQ (continued)



- Olympia SD (<http://kids.osd.wednet.edu>) – serving the State Capitol of Olympia (metropolitan)
- Peninsula SD (<http://Peninsula.wednet.edu>) – serves Peninsula, Gig Harbor, and parts of Tacoma (metropolitan & rural)
- Rainier SD (<http://www.rainier.wednet.edu>) – serves Rainier (rural)
- Steilacoom SD (<http://steilacoom.org/school>) – serves Steilacoom (rural)
- Sumner SD (<http://http://www.sumner.wednet.edu>) – serves the city of Sumner (rural)
- Tacoma SD (<http://www.tacoma.k12.wa.us>) – serving the city of Tacoma (metropolitan)
- Tenino SD (<http://www.tenino.k12.wa.us>) – serves the city of Tenino (rural)
- Tumwater SD (<http://www.tumwater.k12.wa.us>) – serves the city of Tumwater (metropolitan)
- University Place SD (<http://www.upsd.wednet.edu>) – (suburban)
- Bethel School District (<http://www.bethelsd.org>) – serving cities of Spanaway, Graham, Parkland, Roy (rural),
- Yelm SD (<http://www.ycs.wednet.edu>) – serving the cities of Yelm, McKenna (rural)
- \*Federal Way SD (<http://www.fwps.org>) – serving the city of Federal Way in King County (metropolitan & rural)
- Fife SD (<http://www.fifeschools.com>) – serving the city of Fife, and Milton (metropolitan)

## FAQ (continued)



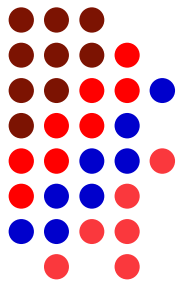
- **Franklin Pierce SD (<http://www.fp.k12.wa.us>) – serves part of Tacoma (metropolitan)**
- **Griffin SD (<http://www.griffin.k12.wa.us>) – serves part of Olympia (metropolitan)**

**Most of these locations are 20 minutes driving time to Ft. Lewis and the greater Tacoma area. Those marked with an asterisk are farther and take longer due to traffic. Before deciding on a residence off-post consider:**

- ***the nature of your lifestyle and your children's interests***
- ***that the cost of housing diminishes as you get further from metropolitan areas***
- ***commute traffic and distance***
- ***consider what you want from the school your children will ultimately attend, i.e., availability of preschools, kindergarten, size of the school and class sizes, availability of before/after school care, and special needs programs***



## FAQ (continued)



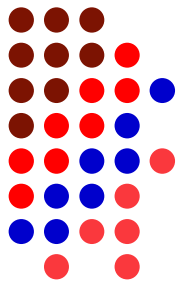
### **How old must a child be to start school?**

**ANSWER:** Children must be age 5 by August 31 to attend kindergarten. (Exception is made if the child has documented attendance at an accredited kindergarten program for 6 weeks or more, but did not meet the age cutoff.) It is important to note that kindergarten is not mandatory in the State of Washington and few districts have full day kindergarten. Kindergarten will usually be half day or less, commonly 2 ½ hours. (Bethel School District and Tacoma School District have full day kindergarten in some of their schools.)

Children must be age 6 by August 31 to attend first grade. (Exception is made if the child has documented successful completion of a kindergarten program.)



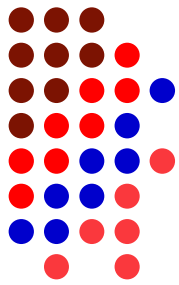
## FAQ (continued)



### When does school start?

**ANSWER:** School start dates differ with each District. In Fall of 2005, Clover Park School District and Bethel School District started on 1 September. The other school districts began after Labor Day. Check individual District websites for calendars.

## FAQ (continued)



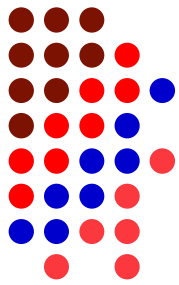
### **What is the quality of the schools on and off post?**

**ANSWER:** Generally the schools are good, though individual classrooms vary - what one parent might consider excellent, another parent might find unsatisfactory and vice versa. The quality of your child's education continues to depend greatly on your involvement and advocacy on behalf of their education. See website [www.militarychild.org](http://www.militarychild.org) for comparison to the National Average and a wide range of information on Washington schools.





## FAQ (continued)



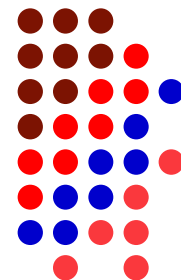
### **How do students perform on standardized tests?**

**ANSWER:** An excellent website to view individual school's Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL standardized test) scores is [reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us](http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us)

Also on this site are demographics on the schools' population of students and teachers.



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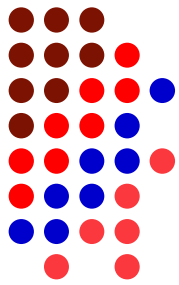


### **Are the schools safe?**

**ANSWER:** Gangs, violence and drugs are a fact of life in our society; however, our school districts are vigilant in addressing individual problems as they arise. All of the schools are fundamentally safe. There is a zero tolerance policy for drugs, violence, and gangs; however, isolated incidents can occur no matter where a child goes to school. Local schools, law enforcement and the School Liaison Office work together as a proactive body to watch for signs of potential problems. We can all be proactive and help keep our schools and children safe:

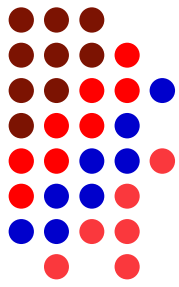


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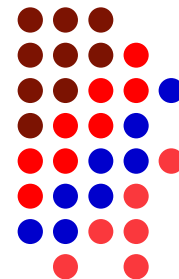


- **What can you do?**
- Gangs thrive on ignorance and apathy. Keeping them out of a community takes cooperation and a willingness to say, "This will not happen here."
- Community Awareness...all members of the community should be educated and aware of what gang activity looks like, and what to do if they witness it. Local law enforcement agencies can provide excellent workshops for a variety of groups.
- Community Action...businesses, schools, government, and citizens need to pool their energy and resources to meet the community's needs. Working together, the problem will seem less intimidating.
- Supervised Activities...give kids a place to go after school. Staff activities with responsible adults who work with kids on homework, in games, in arts and crafts, etc. Children tend to get into much less trouble when there are adults around and watching.
- Resistance Skills Training...teach children the skills they need to resist negative influences in their lives. DARE, GREAT, and other structured programs are a good step in this direction. Children also need to be taught how to make good decisions, and to take responsibility for their behavior.
- Community Service Programs...get kids involved in giving back to the community. If they are responsible for cleaning things up, they will be less likely to mess them up later. Teach children the value of providing service to others, and model your commitment to the neighborhood whenever they are present.
- Graffiti Removal Program...work with local agencies to develop a consistent approach to graffiti. If it is removed promptly, that sends a message of "zero tolerance," and gangs will know they are not welcome

## FAQ (continued)



- **What are some signs to watch for?**
- When a child decides to get involved in a gang, his/her behavior will change. Parents and other adults will notice these changes. Particular things to look for include:
- Clothing..all one color, altered in some way with writing or stitching, dramatic changes in style.
- Tattoos or Graffiti..on school notebooks and assignments, on a child's hands and arms and clothes, in a child's room. Tattoos may be temporary (pen) or permanent, and will usually contain information about the gang.
- Hand signs/Posturing..obvious contortions of the hands (NOT American Sign Language!)
- Stance may become aggressive or defensive.
- Changes in attitude..new aggressiveness and defiance, especially towards any adult in a position of authority.
- Drop in school performance or attendance..grades may drop, student may start skipping classes or entire days of school.
- Unexplained amounts of money..which may be coming from illegal activity.
- Evidence of drug/alcohol use.
- Decrease in family involvement..child will prefer to spend time with his/her gang friends.
- Contact with Law Enforcement..Officers will often know the child by name, and may begin to contact parents or school concerning the child's gang involvement.



## FAQ (continued)

### **Which schools do most of the installation children attend?**

**ANSWER:** All children living on-post attend Clover Park schools. There are five elementary schools on post. Four other school districts have large numbers of military students:

Tacoma School District

Bethel School District

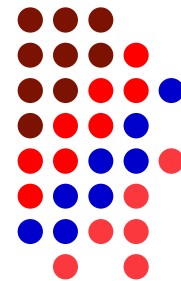
Yelm School District

North Thurston School District

However, there are 13 school districts that have some military students.



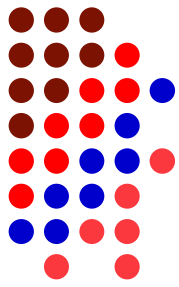
## FAQ (continued)



### **How far is the walk or bus ride to and from school?**

**ANSWER:** This depends on your choice of residence. On-post the schools are neighborhood schools and the walk or bus ride varies between 5-30 minutes. The ride to the Middle Schools and High School is approximately 20-30 minutes from post. Off-post the time/distance will greatly vary. Some of the school districts are placing children outside their neighborhood schools if they are too crowded or they would be better served in another school. It is really important to determine what school your child would attend and if it meets your needs and expectations before you sign a real estate contract or lease.

## FAQ (continued)



### **What is the school registration procedure?**

**ANSWER:** Once you have determined the school your child/children will be attending, you visit that school, usually in the two weeks prior to school opening or as soon as you arrive. You will need:

- ***current/up-to-date immunization records***
- ***(for sports) a physical done within the past year (this can be done upon arrival at the Family Medical Clinic 1-800-404-4506)***
- ***school records from your previous school***
- ***IEP (Individual Education Program) if there are special needs***
- ***Birth Certificate if your child has not previously attended school***
- ***verification of address and orders***



## FAQ (continued)

### What is the Cost for School Breakfast and Lunch?

#### *Breakfast:*

Elementary.....	\$1.15
Secondary.....	\$1.30
Reduced.....	.30

#### *Lunch:*

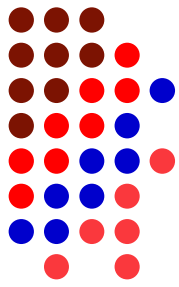
Elementary.....	\$2.00
Secondary.....	\$2.25
Reduced.....	.40
Milk.....	.45

### What is the procedure to apply for free and reduced lunch?

Inquire at the time of enrollment. The school will walk you through the process and provide an application.



## FAQ (continued)



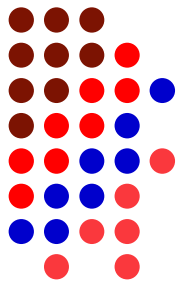
### **What kinds of before and after-school programs are available?**

**ANSWER:** On-post, Child and Youth Services (CYS) has Before and after school programs:

- Beachwood School Age Center for Kindergarten thru 2nd grade is on North Fort
- North Fort Youth Center for 3-8 graders
- Family Child Care has spaces for school age youth
- Clarkmoor and Madigan Child Development Centers have programs for Kindergarten
- The Teen Center, on main post, provides programs for teens after school

These programs require registration with Child and Youth Services (CYS) for which you will need current shot records and a physical within 30 days of enrollment. These programs do fill up quickly so you will want to contact CYS

## FAQ (continued)



ASAP after arrival to register and secure a slot or be placed on a waiting list. CYS registration office is (253)967-2494, located in Bldg.T2166 at the corner of Liggett and S.12<sup>th</sup> Street across from the in-processing center, Waller Hall. Individual communities off-post have a variety of options for before and after school care, including after-school activities in the school. YMCA, Boys and Girls' Club are other options to explore. Availability of before/after school care is another factor to check into before you make a housing decision.

## FAQ (continued)

### **What are the State procedures for home schooling?**

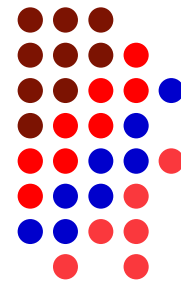
ANSWER: For information on Washington home schooling laws visit the following websites:

[www.homeschoolcentral.com](http://www.homeschoolcentral.com)

[www.nhen.org/loginfo/detail.asp?StateCode=Washington](http://www.nhen.org/loginfo/detail.asp?StateCode=Washington).

NOTE: Please in-process with the School Liaison Office if you are home-schooling. We have many resources at your disposal and a Home School Partnership in Education Group is being formed of families doing home schooling.

## FAQ (continued)



**What is the core curriculum for the district/state**

**ANSWER: Washington State Learning Goals**

These four learning goals provided the foundation for development of the Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs):

**Read** with comprehension, **write** with skill, and **communicate** effectively and responsibly in a variety of ways and setting.

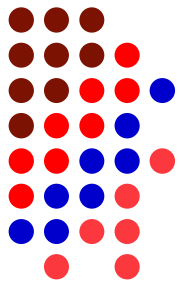
**Know and apply the core concepts and principles** of mathematics; social, physical, and life sciences; civics and history; geography; arts; and health and fitness.

**Think** analytically, logically, and creatively, and integrate experience and knowledge to form reasoned judgments and solve problems.

**Understand** the importance of work and how performance, effort, and decisions directly affect **future career and educational opportunities**.

For more information visit website [www.k12.wa.us/curriculuminstruct](http://www.k12.wa.us/curriculuminstruct) or call the Washington State Curriculum and Instruction office (360)725-6000

## FAQ (continued)



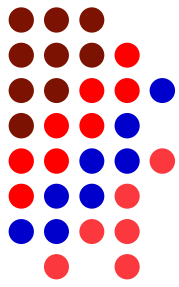
## What are the school health requirements for registration?

### ANSWER:

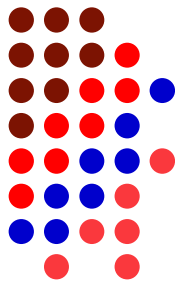
- Immunization records with all shots current.
- If involved in sports, A physical completed within the last year. If you do not have one, this can be done at Ft. Lewis Family Medical Clinic (1-800-404-4506).



# IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS



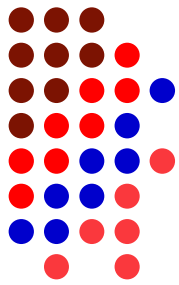
- Washington State law requires that every student be immunized before enrolling in school. A student's parent/guardian must present proof of full immunization, initial schedule of immunization, or certificate of exemption. Requirements are listed below. If you have questions regarding these immunizations, consult your doctor for more details.
- **Note:** Students who have an immunization exemption cannot attend school if there is an outbreak of any disease for which Washington requires vaccinations.



# IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

Age ► Vaccine ▼		1 mo	2 mos	4 mos	6 mos	12 mos	15 mos	18 mos	24 mos	4-6 yrs	11-12 yrs	14-18 yrs
Hepatitis B		Hep B #1										
			Hep B #2			Hep B #3					Hep B	
Diphtheria Tetanus Pertussis			DTaP	DTaP	DTaP		DTaP			DTaP	Td	
<i>H. influenzae</i> type b			Hib	Hib	Hib	Hib						
Inactivated Polio			IPV	IPV		IPV				IPV		
Pneumococcal Conjugate			PCV	PCV	PCV	PCV						
Measles, Mumps, Rubella						MMR				MMR	MMR	
Varicella						Var					Var	
Hepatitis A									Hep A - in selected areas			

## FAQ (continued)

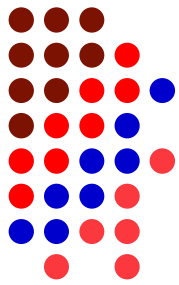


### **What is the procedure to apply for specialized Services such as Special Education, Gifted and Talented Services, or speech therapy?**

**ANSWER:** This depends on individual situations. Do they need assessment or are they already on an IEP (Individual Education Program)? Check in with the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) at Army Community Services, Waller Hall. Be sure to bring any existing IEP (Individual Education Program) and previous school's notes on progress. Take the IEP when you register your child for school. The process will begin at that point. If assessment is needed, there are several avenues for that to happen, i.e., Army Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP), Child Find, and teacher recommendation based on in-classroom observation/performance. If you have questions or concerns, of course, ask to speak to a Counselor.

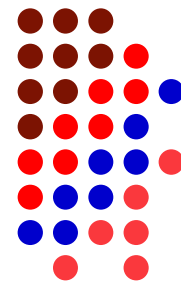


## FAQ (continued)



All Washington schools have special services for special needs; however, not all schools have all services. The school where you register will arrange proper placement of your child. This is definitely an area where parent advocacy is very important for your child's successful education.

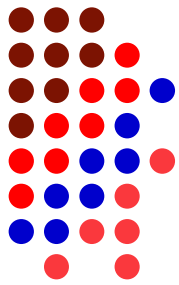
# A Special Needs Student Transition Checklist



- ❑ **Contact your local special education counselor/teacher/director and request assistance as to what should be done before transitioning to a new school.**
- ❑ **Schedule an Annual Review and Dismissal (ARD) meeting to discuss the progress your child has made since your last Individual Education Program (IEP) and/or Modification Plan (MP). Ask for written suggestions that may help your child and the staff at the new school.**
- ❑ **Request a copy of your child's complete educational record to include a copy of the latest IEP. HAND CARRY all records, samples of your child's work (or portfolio, if available) and other information related to your child's education.**
- ❑ **Contact your local ACS Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) Coordinator. They can assist you with identifying resources at your new duty station.**
- ❑ **Be sure to take any special equipment and refill medication prescriptions that your child may need for the next few months.**
- ❑ **Contact the installation School Liaison Officer to assist with transitioning your child to the new school.**

## FAQ (continued)

# High School Graduation Requirements



### **What are the course requirements for high school graduation?**

#### **ANSWER: High School Requirements:**

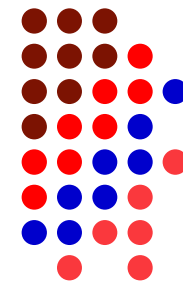
##### ***Certificate of Academic Achievement***

Students must earn the Certificate of Academic Achievement (formerly known as the Certificate of Mastery) by passing the reading, writing and mathematics sections on the 10th-grade Washington Assessment of Student Learning. Beginning in 2010, students also must pass the science portion of the WASL. Beginning in 2006, students will have up to four opportunities to retake all or part of the 10th-grade assessment. Students can “bank” scores in individual subjects, and retake just the portions of the test they don’t pass. The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction is developing an alternative assessment and/or appeals process for students who need a different way to show they’ve met the state’s learning goals. Some special education students will have the option of earning a Certificate of Individual Achievement. Requirements to earn this certificate will vary based on each student’s individual learning plan.

*Class credit requirements:* Students must earn at least 19 high school credits, including the following minimums:

## FAQ (continued)

# HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION (cont)



- SUBJECT/CREDITS
- English 3
- Mathematics 2
- Science\* 2
- Social Studies 2 1/2
- United States History and Government(1)
- Washington State History and Government(1/2)\*\*
- Contemporary World History, Geography, and Problems(1)\*\*
- Occupational Education\*\*\* 1
- Physical Education 2
- Restricted Elective\*\*\*\*1
- Electives \*\*\*\*\*5 1/2

Notes:\*At least one credit of the two science credits shall be in a laboratory science.

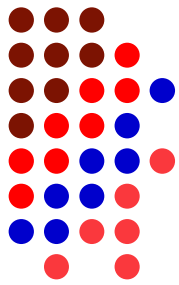
\*\*See WAC [180-51-075](#) for equivalencies.

\*\*\*"Occupational education" means credits resulting from a series of learning experiences designed to assist the student to acquire and demonstrate competency of skills under student learning goal four and which skills are required for success in current and emerging occupations. At a minimum, these competencies shall align with the definition of an exploratory course as proposed or adopted in the career and technical education program standards of the superintendent of public instruction.

\*\*\*\*This one credit requirement must be selected from visual or performing arts or any of the subject areas listed

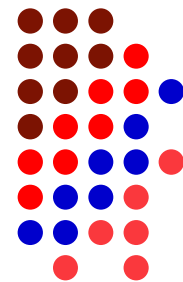
\*\*\*\*\*The minimum elective credits shall be met by additional courses in the required subject areas, by specific local district requirements, or by any course offered pursuant to WAC [180-50-115](#).

## High School Graduation Requirements (cont)



### Culminating project

- Students must design and complete a project on a topic of their choice, and present their project to other students, teachers, parents and/or community members. This requirement offers students an opportunity to apply their learning in a “real world” way. School districts can set parameters for how students accomplish these projects.
- **“High school and beyond” plan**
- Students must outline how they plan to meet their high school graduation requirements and how they will spend their first year out of high school. Creating a plan will help students start thinking about their futures and focus on the courses they need to best prepare them for their career interests, no matter what direction they plan to take.
- *For more information:*  
<http://www.k12.wa.us/communications/GradReq.aspx>

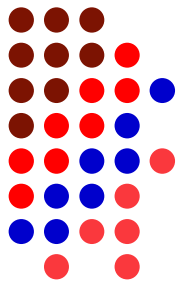


**Who is the point of contact to whether high school credits earned elsewhere will be accepted in your state?**

**ANSWER:** The high school where you register will review existing credits and develop a plan for credits needed to graduate. (If you will live on post, the high school would be Lakes High School.) If there are disputed credits, the School Superintendent would review and make the final decision.



## FAQ (continued)



## What are the private school options in the area?

**ANSWER:** There are many private schools in the area. Some of these private schools are posted with information on them at [www.lewisfamilyfocus.com](http://www.lewisfamilyfocus.com) then click on Exceptional Family Member Program and then click on School Liaison Office.

